

In the Claims:

1. (Amended) A method of searching for and retrieving records included in a database provided in a computer network, the network having a plurality of reception systems at which respective users can request and retrieve [the] respective records, the method comprising the steps of:

a. providing record locators indexed to record identifiers for the respective database records;

b. arranging [the] multiple locators and respective indexed identifiers in a plurality of groups [to define] , the groups respectively establishing predetermined [subsets] subset searches of the database records;

c. [designating] assigning code designations to the respective locator groups [by code];

d. generating [an] a locator group code designation in response to a [record] request for a record so that a group of record locators may be [presented] provided at the reception system and so that a locator may be selected which enables identification and retrieval of the record [and facilitates its retrieval].

2. (Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein providing [the] record locators indexed to record identifiers includes setting the locators as mnemonics that are indexed to the respective identifiers [designation which identify] for the respective [record] records [corresponding to the locator] in the database.

3. (Amended) The method of claim 2 wherein arranging the locators in groups includes arranging the locator mnemonics in tables in which the respective mnemonics are indexed to the respective record identifiers.

a  
Cont.  
00000000 112503  
4. (Amended) The method of claim 3 wherein [designating] assigning code designations to the respective locator groups [by code] includes [arranging] establishing the [codes] respective code designations as alphabetically sequenced character strings such that when a character sequence is entered at a reception system to designate a requested record, a locator table may be provided at the reception system from which a group of respective record identifiers may be selected.

5. (Amended) The method of claim 4 wherein providing record locators indexed to respective record identifiers includes [arranging] establishing the locators as keywords and wherein the character sequence entered at the reception system to designate a requested [records]record may be [generated with] entered using a plurality of search [strategies]procedures.

Sub B  
6. (Amended) The method of claim 5 wherein the records to be searched for and retrieved [sought to be identified] are interactive applications associated with an interactive service, and wherein the applications are arranged to be generated from objects.

7. (Amended) The method of claim 6 wherein providing locator keywords indexed to respective record identifiers includes [setting] establishing the identifiers as object identifications.

8. (Amended) The method of claim 6 wherein one of the multiple search procedures for entering the character sequence at the reception system [with a plurality of search strategies] includes entering the character sequence [based on] as a description of [the] a desired application [desired].

9. (Amended) The method of claim 6 wherein one of the multiple search procedures for entering the character sequence [with a plurality of search strategies] includes entering the character sequence [based on] as a selection of the desired application from an alphabetical listing of applications.

10. (Amended) The method of claim 6 wherein one of the multiple search procedures for entering the character sequence with a plurality of search strategies includes entering the character sequence [based on] as a selection of the desired application from a subject-category listing of applications [by subject category].

11. (Amended) A method of searching for and retrieving [application] applications included as records in an interactive service database stored in a computer network, the network

a' Cont  
08158029-112693  
E6921152085183

Sub B21

68

X

having a plurality of reception system at which respective users can request and retrieve applications, and the applications being made up of objects collectively containing presentation data and program instructions, the method comprising the steps of:

a. preparing a plurality of tables, each table including [having various] keywords respectively referenced to application identifiers [referenced to respective keywords] so that each table [represents] establishes a predetermined subset search of the applications stored in the service database;

b. providing each table with a unique [coding] code designation;

c. generating a table code designation in response to a query entered at the reception system for an application [entered at the reception system];

d. comparing the table code designation generated with the available table [codings] code designations to select a table suited to the query;

e. [transmitting] providing the table [to] at the reception system at which the query was entered so that the requested application may be identified from the table and so that the application may be retrieved at the reception system where the query was entered.

[f. processing the table identified applications] at the reception system where the query was entered.]

12. (Amended) The method of claim 11 wherein preparing the tables includes establishing the application identifiers as object identifiers for objects used in composing [representing the applications by referring to the objects that make up] the respective applications, and wherein [the coding] assigning the respective code designations for [of] the tables includes supplying one or more letters in combination to identify [each] the respective [table] tables.

13. (Amended) The method of claim 12 wherein generating the table code identifiers includes receiving a query for applications [in] produced using one of a plurality of different procedures and translating the query produced using one [or more] of the different procedures into a single procedure common to all the procedures [procedure] for generating the table code designations, the table code designations including one or more letters in combination to uniquely identify [an application] a table.

14. (Amended) The method of claim 13 wherein the generating of the table [codes] code designations includes receiving a query from the user for an application with a procedure selected [for] from the group of procedures consisting of selection by character string, alphabetical listing and category listing.

15. (Amended) The method of claim 14 wherein the processing of table identified applications includes collecting at the